THIRTEEN REASONS

For opposing the establishment of Rectories in this Province, for the support of the English Church.—By JUSTITIA.

1. It is contrary to the oft repeated wishes of the people's representatives, and of a great majority of the more enlightened inhabitants of Upper Canada who on other things entertain different political and religious sentiments,—it must therefore be obnoxious.

2. It is contrary to the conscientious principles of other sects, who are generally more devoted to the interests of religion, and equally worthy with the Episcopalians.

3. It is positively unjust; for the Episcopalians are not so numerous as some other sects, and but a mere fraction as compared with the aggregate number of other denominations.

4. Because it will constantly produce acrimonious feelings among Christians, and prove a fruitful source of bitter strife.

5. It will enfeeble the religious energies of those it is intended to benefit, and thereby greatly hinder the progress of truth.

6. It will make those that enjoy this patronage the slaves of the state; obliging them to support abuses and resist reforms.*

7. It will amalgamate the church with the world. and thereby give infidels occasion to slander the truth.

8. Because hierarchies in every country have always been exclusive, oppressive, and persecuting.

9. Because the constitution of the church to which this patronage is given, with many of the peculiar names, titles, and offices of its clergy, have no foundation in scripture.

10. Because this church dishonors the dignity of Christ, and opposes the express declarations of scripture, by making the King of England (whatever may be his moral character) its head.

11. Because this church is the creature of an act of the British Parliament, by a single vote of which it may at any hour be dissolved.

12. Because establishments of whatever character, whether Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, or Presbyterian, are opposed to the will of Christ, John xviii,36; to the purity of his Gospel, 2 Cor.vi.17; and to the equality of christian privileges, Matt. xxiii, 8; Luke xx, 26.

13. Because universal experience, from the days of the Apostles to the present, proves that assistance in ANY DEGREE from the state is detrimental to the interests of christianity.

---

* The rejection of the Reform Bill in the House of Lords was principally owing to the Bishops, of whom twenty-one voted against it; while, on the other hand, they strenuously supported the Irish coercion bill, to enforce the payment of tithes, &c.